Obtaining Rabies Biologicals for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis

**Insured patients that have a primary care physician**

If you have had exposure to an animal and need post-exposure rabies vaccine and have not been previously immunized against rabies please follow the steps outlined below. If your doctor determines you need to receive the vaccine you will follow the schedule below:

- Day Zero – Human Rabies immunoglobulin, (HRIG) and one rabies vaccine
- Day 3 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 7 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 14 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 28 – One rabies vaccine (this day is only for individuals with compromised immune systems)

**Step 1:** Seek immediate medical attention for your bite/scratch if needed. Report incident to your city’s animal control. Call Collin County Health Care Services at 972-548-4707 or if after hours or on the weekend call 972-547-5350.

**Step 2:** You will need to go to a hospital emergency room (not an urgent care facility) of choice for the day zero biologicals, that is, Humans Rabies Immunoglobulin (HRIG) (dosage is by your weight) and one rabies vaccine. The emergency rooms are the **ONLY** location where the HRIG is currently available for insured individuals. We recommend contacting the emergency room of choice to identify if the product is in stock before proceeding to the emergency room.

**Step 3:** The hospital will administer the “Day Zero” biologicals and write you a prescription for the remainder of the vaccines. A physician must write a prescription that can be filled at Walgreens. Please check with your primary care physician to see if they are willing to administer the vaccine to you before moving on to the next step. It is recommended to contact Walgreens to assure the vaccine is in stock. **Walgreens does not administer the vaccine.** They will dispense vaccine to the patient. The patient will need to bring a cooler with ice packs to transport the vaccine.

**Step 4:** After picking up the vaccine from Walgreens you must take the vaccine to your primary care physician to be administered on day 3, 7 and 14.

**Insured patients with no primary care physician**

If you have had exposure to an animal and need post-exposure rabies vaccine and have not been previously immunized against rabies please follow the steps outlined below. If your doctor determines you need to receive the vaccine you will follow the schedule below:

- Day Zero – Human Rabies immunoglobulin, (HRIG) and one rabies vaccine
- Day 3 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 7 – One rabies vaccine
Day 14 – One rabies vaccine
Day 28 – One rabies vaccine (this day is only for individuals with compromised immune systems)

Step 1: Seek immediate medical attention for your bite/scratch if needed. Report incident to your city’s animal control. Call Collin County Health Care Services at 972-548-4707 or if after hours or on the weekend call 972-547-5350.

Step 2: You will need to go to a hospital emergency room (not an urgent care facility) of choice for the ALL biologicals, that is, Humans Rabies Immunoglobulin (HRIG) (dosage is by your weight) and rabies vaccine for day 0, 3, 7 and 14. The emergency rooms are the ONLY location where the HRIG is currently available for insured individuals. We recommend contacting the emergency room of choice to identify if the product is in stock before proceeding to the emergency room.

Step 3: The hospital will administer the vaccine and arrange for you to come back to the ER for day 3, 7, and 14.

* If you do not have a primary care physician and do not want to have several trips to the ER it is recommended to call around and find a doctor who can administer the rabies vaccine. If you are successful in doing this please refer to the steps under “Insured patients that have a primary care physician”.

Uninsured patients with physicians

If you have had exposure to an animal and need post-exposure rabies vaccine and have not been previously immunized against rabies please follow the steps outlined below. If your doctor determines you need to receive the vaccine you will follow the schedule below:

- Day Zero – Human Rabies immunoglobulin, (HRIG) and one rabies vaccine
- Day 3 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 7 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 14 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 28 – One rabies vaccine (this day is only for individuals with compromised immune systems)

Step 1: Seek immediate medical attention for your bite/scratch if needed. Report incident to your city’s animal control. Call Collin County Health Care Services at 972-548-4707 or if after hours or on the weekend call 972-547-5350.

Step 2: You will need to go to be evaluated by your primary care physician. If your primary care physician has determined that post-exposure rabies vaccine is needed they need to call Collin County Health Care Services (CCHCS). Your health care provider should call our office (CCHCS) for further instructions at 972-548-4707. Your physician will need to write a prescription for Humans Rabies Immunoglobulin (HRIG) (dosage is by your weight) and rabies vaccine for day 0, 3, 7 and 14. CCHCS will dispense human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) and rabies vaccine to uninsured patients ONLY. These patients are required to have a properly written prescription and a health care provider who will administer the biologicals.

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**Step 3:** You will come to Collin County Health Care Services to pick up the biologicals. You will need to have a cooler with cool packs (not wet ice). Our office location is 825 N McDonald St, McKinney, TX 75069.

**Step 4:** After picking up the vaccine from CCHCS you must immediately take the vaccine to your primary care physician to be administered on day 3, 7 and 14.

* The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will dispense rabies biologicals to uninsured patients only. CCHCS is a depot site only. There is a cost associated with obtaining the vaccine from DSHS. If the patient is unable to pay they will be billed at a later date.

**Uninsured patients with no physician**

If you have had exposure to an animal and need post-exposure rabies vaccine and have not been previously immunized against rabies please follow the steps outlined below. If your doctor determines you need to receive the vaccine you will follow the schedule below:
- Day Zero – Human Rabies immunoglobulin, (HRIG) and one rabies vaccine
- Day 3 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 7 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 14 – One rabies vaccine
- Day 28 – One rabies vaccine (this day is only for individuals with compromised immune systems)

**Step 1:** Seek immediate medical attention for your bite/scratch if needed. Report incident to your city’s animal control. Call Collin County Health Care Services at 972-548-4707 or if after hours or on the weekend call 972-547-5350.

**Step 2:** If you are do not have a primary care physician or are not able to locate one, you will need to go to one of the following hospitals for rabies post exposure prophylaxis.

- The county hospitals in the Region 2/3 area are:
  - John Peter Smith in Fort Worth 817-927-1451
  - Parkland Hospital in Dallas 214-590-8000

*Additional option in all circumstances

Healthcare providers may order the biologicals directly. The above information does not apply if the treating physician will order vaccine directly. Please call us (CCHCS) directly for more information about ordering biologicals at 972-548-4707.